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uring a hot afternoon on the streets of Verona a horrific fight broke out between lifelong rivals; the Capulets and the Montagues, resulting in two men dead and one man banished!

For years there has been unrest between the Capulet and the Montague families but yesterday blood was shed. Witnesses say Mercutio and Benvolio were approached on the street by Tybalt Capulet. After harsh words were said between the two groups, Romeo Montague intervened. Tybalt is said to have tried to get Romeo to draw his sword but he refused, trying to keep the peace. It is believe that Mercutio said if Romeo refused to fight then he would and he drew his sword. It is believed that Romeo threw himself between the two men trying to stop the fight, but not before Tybalt slipped his sword under Romeo’s arm and fatally stabbed Mercutio. Tybalt and his crew fled after this happened. Someone heard Mercutio’s last words cursing both families, “A plague o’ both your houses!”

Within hours Romeo and Tybalt met again and exchanged harsh words before they drew their swords and Romeo killed Tybalt.

**SORTING THROUGH THE UNREST**

It is said that Benvolio tried to explain the circumstances of the fight to Prince Escalus defending Romeo by saying he tried to keep the peace between the families. Lady Capulet refused to believe him and wanted Romeo put to death. After great thought Prince Escalus chose to banish Romeo declaring if he was ever found in the city he would be killed.



**The final draw between Romeo and Tybalt**